



DDartists

Young Artists with Developmental Disabilities

Program Overview

The DDartists (Artists with Developmental Disabilities) Program provides participants with developmental disabilities the opportunity for employment and talent development. Our program focuses particularly on providing services to those who have interests and talents in art. The DDartists Program utilizes our participants' artistic talents to develop saleable products in collaboration with professional industrial designers. The sales of these products generate salaries for our participants and positive exposure for our programs.

Why DDartists?

People with disabilities face lacking job training and employment opportunities, with thousands of claims of disability discrimination in the United States each year. In particular, we learned that those with developmental disabilities were at highest risk of unemployment and inability to integrate into society. Through our initial employment programs for youth with disabilities, our staff witnessed the hidden artistic talents that several students had – leading us to develop the DDartists Program to help these young artists find employment and inclusion through our services.

What We Do

1. Internal Employment Opportunities

DDartists provides several opportunities for internal employment to help participants become financially self-reliant, earn professional experiences, and to become part of the community.

1-1 Vocational Training in Arts and Crafts

DDartists provides a professional environment where the participants will hone their skills in arts and crafts. Through various training in comprehensive media, DDartists participants develop their competency as designers, artists, and craftsmen.

1-2 DDartists-Designed Merchandise

DDartists participants create merchandise ranging from toys, greetings cards, and gift bags throughout the program. These products are sold through various online platforms, offline events, and fundraisers to generate salaries for participants and funding for the program.

1-3 Sales & Profit

All revenues raised by the sales of the DDartists merchandise go toward the participants' salaries. Various fundraisers and outreach events are hosted to promote the sales of the DDartists products.

2. Annual Art Exhibition

DDartists participants showcase their artwork at the Give Chances Annual Art Exhibition. The event allows our artists to integrate and interact with community members and generates significant fundraising opportunities for the program.

